Garden Choices

Compare what two characters think about one problem.

ELA.3.R.1.3 "Explain different characters' perspectives in a literary text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show what Talia thinks, wants, or feels. Put a box around words that show what Ben thinks, wants, or feels, so you can compare their perspectives.

A Place for the Plant

1 On Friday afternoon, Talia brought a small bean plant to class. Its stem leaned over the rim of a paper cup. "It needs a bigger home," she said. Talia had grown the plant from a seed at home, and she wanted to place it in the sunny school garden. Ben frowned when he saw the thin stem.

2 "The garden is too windy," Ben said. "What if the plant breaks?" He thought Talia should leave it by the classroom window, where it would be safe. Talia looked at the crowded sill. She believed the plant would have more room outside, and she hoped bees might visit its flowers later. "I can protect it with a little fence," she replied.

3 Ms. Chen asked both children to share their ideas. Ben still worried about the wind, but he liked Talia's plan for a fence. Talia understood Ben's concern and agreed to check the plant each day. Together, they planted it near a wall, where it could get sun and some shelter. Ben smiled when the stem stood straight beside the fence.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does Ben feel about putting the bean plant in the garden at first? What does he think could happen?

2. Why does Talia want to put the plant in the garden?

3. How are Talia's and Ben's perspectives different about the best place for the plant?

4. How does Ben's perspective change after Talia suggests a fence?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences that explain Talia's and Ben's perspectives about where to plant the bean plant. Include one detail from the passage in each sentence.

ANSWER KEY # Garden Choices

GRADE 3 · ELA.3.R.1.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that show what Talia thinks, wants, or feels. Put a box around words that show what Ben thinks, wants, or feels, so you can compare their perspectives. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does Ben feel about putting the bean plant in the garden at first? What does he think could happen?	**Ben thinks the garden is too windy and worries that the plant could break.**
2	Why does Talia want to put the plant in the garden?	**Talia thinks the plant will have more room outside, and she hopes bees may visit its flowers.**
3	How are Talia's and Ben's perspectives different about the best place for the plant?	**Talia prefers the sunny garden with more room, while Ben prefers the classroom window because he thinks it is safer.**
4	How does Ben's perspective change after Talia suggests a fence?	**Ben still worries about wind, but he likes the fence plan and is pleased when the plant stands straight.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Talia thinks the garden is a good place because the plant will have more room and may attract bees. Ben worries that wind could break the plant, so he prefers a safer place near the classroom.

Accept responses that accurately explain both characters' different views and include passage details. Students may use different words for Talia's wish for space and sun and Ben's concern about wind and safety.